

19 November 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

This year we are striving to reward students' great work and conduct more consistently. Our students make us proud every day and the vast majority work very hard on their studies in and outside of lessons. Rewards are given for excellent attendance, full proud cards and high positive points totals. During each academic year we also reward students for completing each stage of the Bronze, Silver and Gold Learning Journeys (please see attached PDF).

Homework completion and expectations

Homework and independent study are an essential part of your child's learning. Getting into good habits of working from home will help your child to embed learning, prepare for upcoming lessons and create good strong learning habits. Our expectation is that KS3 students should complete approximately 7 hours of homework per week, KS4 9 hours per week and KS5 12 hours per week. We routinely reward students who complete their homework on time and to a good standard. If homework is missed, students will be asked to stay behind after school to catch up in detention.

Artificial Intelligence and homework

Artificial Intelligence is now a key part of our lives, and it is used in many ways to support advances across different sectors, such as medicine, data analysis and report writing. We have noticed that some students are using AI / Chat GPT to complete homework for them, notably in maths and science.

We know that AI can answer questions on Sparx – and can answer them very quickly and accurately. I would like to ask for your support to make sure your child does not use AI to complete homework. They learn nothing through doing this and they will not be able to use it when they are sitting exams. It gives a false impression of the student's ability and more concerning, will lead to them failing or not achieving their true potential as they will not know how to answer questions for themselves. There is no shortcut to effective learning and knowledge retention. Success in exams only comes from hard work, tenacity and rigour – skills children need in the workplace. Students will be asked to redo homework in detention if we feel they have used AI to complete their work.

I would like to thank parents and carers for supporting us in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Fiona Lunskey

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